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Your Reference: RPH.P51444G Application No: GB 0206246.1

3 July 2002

Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)

I enclose two copies of my search report and a copy of the citations.

Publication

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after 5 August 2003. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

Amendment/withdrawal

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. No reminder will be issued. If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: "URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT".

Yours faithfully

Matthew Perkins Examiner







Application No:

GB 0206246.1

Claims searched: 1 to 28

Examiner:

Matthew Perkins

Date of search:

2 July 2002

Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.T): E1F (FLC)

F2N

F2P (PG1, PG2)

Int Cl (Ed.7): B08B, E21B, F16L

Other: Online: WPI, EPODOC, PAJ

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage		Relevant to claims
X	GB 2356439	(UNIV. OF DURHAM) See pages 1 to 6	1 to 9, 13 to 15, 17, 18, 22, 26 & 27
Х	GB 2351304	(WEATHERFORD/LAMB) See page 2 line 22 to page 10 line 8	1 to 17, 22 to 25 & 27
Х	WO 00/63606	(P.A.C.T.) See page 3 line 4 to page 8 line 26.	1 to 3, 5 to 8, 11, 13, 14, 17, 22 to 25 & 27.

- X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step
 Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.
- & Member of the same patent family

- Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
- P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
- E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.